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OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 45 No. 317 Pages: 12 Rs. 3.00
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MYSURU Saturday 7th January 2023
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CM inaugurates BJP SC Morcha National Executive Meet in City

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Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai lighting the lamp to inaugurate the BJP SC Morcha National Executive Meet at Lalitha Mahal Hotel in city this afternoon as BJP National General Secretary C.T. Ravi, BJP SC Morcha National President Lal Singh Arya and Mayor Shivakumar look on.

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (RK&DM)- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai formally inaugurated the second day of the three-day BJP SC Morcha National Executive Meet at Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel premises this afternoon. Bommai, who was scheduled to inaugurate at 10.30 am, was late by over two hours and addressed the meeting after 1 pm.

Bommai said that SC/ST communities form the core of the country's social sector. Pointing out that these communities have laid a strong cultural foundation over centuries, the CM asserted that the State Government is committed to the upliftment and development of all oppressed sections.

Stressing the need for the empowerment of SC/ST communities through equality and equity, he said that every member of the community must live with self-respect and self-reliance.

Maintaining that the BJP is working towards bringing the backward sections to the mainstream by bringing about a transformational change, Bommai said that the State Government has taken a historic decision on hiking reservation for SC/ST communities based on the Constitutional aspirations and numerical strength of the population.

Terming Dr. B.R. Ambedkar an iconic social scientist, he said that the Father of the Indian Constitution was also an outstanding economist and a patriot. The BJP never insulted nor ill-treated Dr. Ambedkar unlike Congress, he added.

Earlier, BJP National General Secretary C.T. Ravi lashed out at the Congress for portraying BJP as anti-Dalit, though the BJP was never against SC/ST communities. Accusing Congress of treating Dalits merely as a vote bank, Ravi said that it is pertinent to note that it was Congress that defeated Dr. Ambedkar in the Lok Sabha election.

(See BJP SC MORCHA on page 7)

To Our Readers

Turn to Page-8 for Abracadabra titled ***"Musings on last days of Spiritual Masters of Sanatana Dharma."*** **—Ed**

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Saturday 7th January 2023

Muddurama Award conferred on Dr. Gururaj Karajagi

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (MK&SSM)- 'Muddurama Award' instituted by Muddurama Pratishtana, Mysuru, was conferred for the first time on motivational speaker and educationist Dr. Gururaj Karajagi at the inaugural programme of the Pratishtana at JSS Women's College in Saraswathipuram here recently.

Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji who presented the award said that 'Muddurama Award' has made its way to Dr. Gururaj Karajagi. "If the award is presented to the right qualified person then the value of the award also increases. Dr. Karajagi has been delivering motivational lectures to teachers to impart moral and spiritual education to students," he said and lauded the works of litterateur K.C. Shivappa, who is also the President of Muddurama Pratishtana.

Dr. Gururaj Karajagi, who too spoke, said that life is both painful and threatening, it is also blissful and fun. "We tend to forget the element of happiness in life by just concentrating on sadness. A place has both junkyard and a rose garden. Why do we, as humans, tend to stand near the junkyard and complain about the disgusting smell, rather than voluntarily diverting ourselves towards the beautiful rose garden?," he asked the audience and said to make life beautiful.

Central Sangeet Natak Akademi awardees Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy and noted Sugama Sangeeta artiste H.R. Leelavathi and thinker Shankar Devanur were felicitated on the occasion. Folk singer Shubha Raghavendra sang 'Muddurama Chaupadi'.

Thinker Hiremagalur Kannan, Parimala Gururaj Karajagi, Muddurama Pratishtana Vice-President Prof. N.M. Talwar, Secretary R.A. Chethan Ram, Joint Secretary N. Ravi Kumar, Treasurer Shivakumar and others were present on the occasion.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Forgiveness is the fragrance the violet sheds at the heel that has crushed it. In fact it does not even realise it has been hurt, it just does its duty of spreading its grace. Forgetting is a large part of forgiveness. Life cannot go on without a great deal of forgetting. Forgetting the hurt caused to you, putting away the bitter memories that haunt you is forgiveness.

Easier said than done, these memories can be corrosive, they can embitter your mind against all that is still beautiful, of all the love that is still there waiting for you in spite of what you have suffered. Often we hear of people who say that they have forgiven but they have not forgotten which is meaningless as forgiving and forgetting together are the twin measures of forgiveness. To forgive is to forswear resentment towards the person who has caused you grievous harm. This call to forgive has to come from within. "Forgiveness does not change the past but it does enlarge the future." To forgive is to earn your redemption and your peace of mind and reaffirm your faith in the Supreme Intelligence.

The law will take its own course but forgiveness is a matter of the heart. In the need to forgive, let us also forgive ourselves through true remorse and repentance and become empowered individuals. In the end as none of us is without sin, we must forgive to be forgiven. *— Sudha Devi Nayak in Deccan Herald*

NEWS SPARKLERS

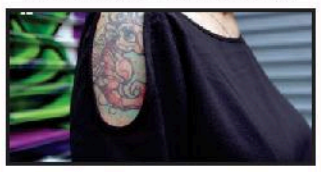
Dental X-Ray on Christmas cards

California: A man from California, US accidentally printed his neighbour's dental X-ray on Christmas cards. Dan White, took to Twitter to share that he selected the wrong photo to edit and he ended up printing 90 Christmas cards. The note on the card read, "Merry Christmas: The Whites".

The man was trying to design the card by using a photo printing application, Shutterfly, the app allows customers to choose pictures from their camera roll, insert text and clip art. But for Dan, it took a rather comic turn, he chose a picture of his neighbour's dental x-ray and the results were hilarious.

"Selected the wrong photo from my camera roll so now I have 90 of these," Dan wrote on Twitter, along with graphic X-ray photos of teeth. He explained that he kept Mike's dental X-ray on his phone because he has such great teeth.

Woman gets tattoo instead of wrinkle removal



Chicago: The 'self-birthday gift' she chose was not a wrinkle removal procedure, a full-length wig, or an expensive massager. This woman gave herself a seahorse tattoo on her right shoulder to commemorate her 80th birthday. This is the story of Elaine Soloway , born in 1938 . "It's embarrassing not to reveal that you're 80 years old. I'm 80, and I can walk and talk."

"In my generation, you had to get married as soon as you graduated from college, otherwise it was considered that there was no reason to live. Women like Betty Friedan and others fought for equality, but I didn't. I just didn't. I was a housewife."

Elaine Soloway is still active as a writer. "I'm still resisting, writing. I haven't stopped. There are wrinkles as I am 80 years old and but I am still excited. I'm still creating and encouraging others. I tell others to do what they want to do, and I will do what I want to do," she said.

HEALTH CAPSULE

A screening with urine culture and sensitivity should be done in early pregnancy, since UTIs can cause major complications later in the pregnancy.

By Dr. Amulya K.G. - Consultant – Obstetrics and Gynecology
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

**** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature***

Samaja Parivartana Yatra to enter Mysuru district tomorrow

Mysuru, Jan.7 (MTY&TRR) - District President of Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (KRRS) Hosuru Kumar has said that the Samaja Parivatrana Yatra, which is being undertaken from Kudalasangama to Bengaluru to demand immediate withdrawal of three Amendments to the Agricultural Act by the State Government, began from Mangaluru on Jan. 5 and will enter Mysuru district via Madikeri, on Jan.8.

He was speaking to the media after holding a meeting with the district farmer leaders at Jaladarshini Guest House on Thursday.

"The Yatra is being held under the joint aegis of Janandolanagala Mahamaitri, Citizens for Democracy and Janatantra Prayogashale from four different parts of the State. The Yatra which began from Mangaluru on Jan.5 will enter Madikeri on Jan.7. It will reach Mysuru on Jan.8 after passing through Periyapatna and Hunsur. A public meeting will be held on Jan.9 at 11 am at Deputy Commissioner's Office premises. Writer Devanur Mahadeva, KRRS President Badagalapura Nagendra, Social Actvist S.R. Hiremath and many other distinguished persons will participate in the function," said Hosur Kumar and added that a massive public meeting will be held at Bengaluru on Jan.11.

District General Secretary of KRRS Hosakote Basavaraju said that both Union and State Governments are functioning against the principles and ideology of Democracy. "Earlier, the Union Government brought Amendments to Agricultural Act and committed atrocities on farmers and withdrew the Amendments only after a prolonged agitation against the Amendments. But the State Government hasn't withdrawn the Amendments yet and continues to exploit farmers. The Samaja Parivartana Yatra is being organised to demand that the Government should immediately withdraw the Amendments, and implement policies to promote right to work, protection of the Constitution, building communal harmony in society and to launch pro-people, pro-farmer and pro-women programmes," explained Hosakote Basavarju.

Farmer leader Prasanna N. Gowda, said farmers are selling their agricultural produce at half the price and added that they will demand implementation of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan Report so that scientific rates can be fixed for agricultural produce.

REALLY...?

- ***A far-flung village of Kodinhi in Kerala named Malappuram is called the "twins village". This village is called the "Village of Twins" due to the strikingly large number of twin births in the village. Scientists say the strange reason for this is the chemicals in the water in this area.***
- ***The Karni Mata Temple is one of the most holy sanctums, but little do people know that it is also one of the most mysterious places in India. The temple is home to over 20,000 rats. Revolting as it may sound, one is not allowed to kill, hurt, or even scare them away!***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Teacher: *Give a sentence beginning with "I".*
Student: *"I" is....*
Teacher: *Stop there, you need to begin with "I am".*
Student: *Okay...I am the ninth letter of the alphabet!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 82.27
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 99.49
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 22.40
1 Euro	= Rs. 87.57

VOICE OF THE READER

Address garbage menace near J.P. Nagar ORR stretch

Sir,

Mysuru city has a heritage significance in each and every aspect. However, it is losing its significance because of the carelessness of some people. Mysuru, which was once known for cleanliness, is gradually losing the tag, with the civic issue aggravated by some citizens.

As we see today, the indiscriminate disposing of garbage on the Outer Ring Road (ORR) is on the rise, with people from extension areas indulging in such acts. The morning walkers and nearby residents find it difficult to take such roads, with wastes making them more messy.

It is more in the areas of J.P. Nagar and near APMC, especially with the bar located nearby and the people in inebriated condition urinate on the road itself, causing severe inconvenience to morning walkers on the stretch of road. On the other side, tepid smell emanating from the garbage and urine make it further uneasy for the walkers.

Most of the walkers are senior citizens, who can't even raise their voice and even if they do so, the unruly people won't even listen. The cows and pigs feed on the garbage and the people should think twice or thrice before disposing of the waste indiscriminately.

On many occasions, Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) had decided to crack down on dumping of waste on streets by imposing a fine on violators. Just last month too Mayor Shivakumar had said that MCC personnel would keep an eye on all the dumping spots to identify violators and penalise them. If these steps did not yield results then installing CCTV cameras would be considered, he had said. So, we request the MCC Commissioner and the Mayor to keep an eye on this and find a permanent solution to this issue as early as possible.

—Vishwanath S. Bhat
J. P. Nagar 3.1.2023

Annual Feast at Infant Jesus Cathedral from this evening

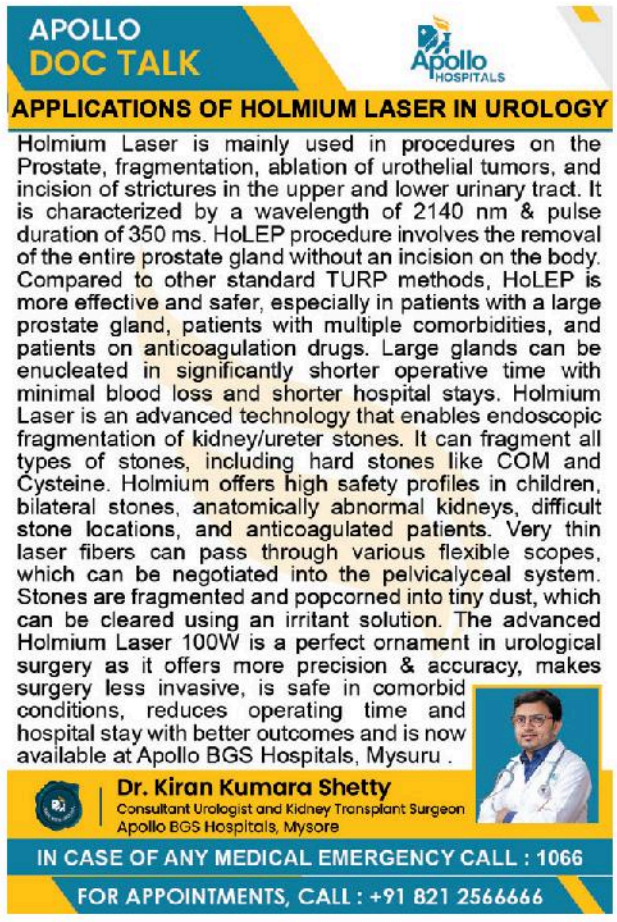
Mysuru, Jan. 7- The Annual Feast of Infant Jesus at the Infant Jesus Cathedral, Hinkal, will be celebrated from today (Jan.7) till Jan. 15. The celebrations will begin with the flag hoisting by Rev. Fr. Thomas Mangalathil, the Parish Priest at 6.30 pm today, followed by the Holy Mass and Novena. Rev. Fr. Joju Chowallur OFM Cap will celebrate the Holy Mass and Novena at 8 am tomorrow. There will be Holy Mass and Novena at 6.30 pm on all days from Jan.9 to 13. Rev. Fr. Manoj Varghese OFM Cap will celebrate the Holy Mass and Novena at 6.30 pm on Jan. 14 followed by the Eucharistic Procession.

On Jan.15, the Main Feast Day, there will be Holy Mass at 7 am. Rev. Fr. Paul Manjooran, Vocation Director, Diocese of Mandya, will be the main celebrant for the Solemn High Mass at 10.30 am. *Annasantharpane* will be held at 12.30 pm. Rt. Rev. Dr. K. A. William, the Bishop of Mysore, will officiate the Solemn Festal High Mass in Kannada at 4.30 pm followed by the grand candle light procession in honour of Infant Jesus with the famous *shingarimela* to the Ring Road junction, Hinkal. There will be *shingarimela* performance and fireworks display at 7.30 pm. Kozhikode Sankeerthana-Communications will stage the Malayalam drama "Venalavadhi" at 8 pm. Special arrangements have been made for the Crown Offering to Infant Jesus during the Feast, according to K. V. Wilson, General Convener.

Motivational speaker from Mumbai in city

Shantilal Gulecha

Mysuru, Jan. 7- Jeeto Mysuru Chapter's initiative "Jeeto Har Ghar Jeeto Ghar Ghar Jeeto" unique programme will be held on Sunday (Jan.8) at 7 am near the Pigeon Donation venue in front of Palace North Gate. Shantilal Gulecha, a motivational speaker from Mumbai, will be present at the programme titled 'Golden dreams of life' and address the gathering. President Kantilal Jain, Chief Secretary Gautam Salecha, Members of Mysuru Jeeto Parivar, Jeeto Youth Wing Parivar, Jeeto Ladies Wing family and all the youths of Mysuru Mandals and Mahila Mandals will attend.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NEWS BRIEFS

District volleyball team selection

Mysuru district Men's and Women's team selection process for the 25th State-level Volleyball Championship has been organised by Mysore District Volleyball Association at Vivekananda Sports Ground in Kuvempunagar here on Jan. 10 at 3 pm. Interested players may participate in the selection process carrying their identity card. For details, contact Association Joint Secretary D. Sudarshan on Mob: 94822-35975.

Suttur Cattle Fair cancelled

The Suttur Cattle Fair, which was scheduled to be held as part of the annual Suttur Jatra Mahotsava (Jan. 18 to 23) at Suttur in Nanjangud taluk, stands cancelled following the outbreak of the deadly Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD). The cancellation comes after the DC, in an order on Jan. 3, had prohibited all Cattle Fairs in the district until further orders as a precautionary measure to check the spread of deadly LSD cattle pandemic, according to a press release.

Ph.D awardee

C. Basavaraju has been awarded Ph.D in Kannada by the University of Mysore (UoM) for his thesis 'Prof. G. Abdul Bashir Avara Samagra Sahitya' submitted under the guidance of Dr. K. Sowbhagyavathi.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80 feet
Today	:	118.62 feet
Yesterday	:	118.66 feet
Inflow	:	808 cusecs
Outflow	:	1,189 cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00 feet
Today	:	2,271.79 feet
Inflow	:	356 cusecs
Outflow	:	Nil

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00 feet
Today	:	2,828.42 feet
Inflow	:	118 cusecs
Outflow	:	70 cusecs

5.05 crore eligible voters in State: Chief Electoral Officer

Manoj Kumar Meena

Bengaluru, Jan. 7 (KMS&BS)- Ahead of the forthcoming Assembly elections, Karnataka State Election Commission has announced final voters list. There are a total of 5,05,48,553 (5.05 crore) voters including 2,54,49,775 (2.54 crore) male, 2,50,94,326 (2.50 crore) female and 4,502 others, eligible to exercise their franchise, said **Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)** Manoj Kumar Meena on Thursday.

Addressing media persons, he said, "The final revised voters list of 221 Assembly Constituencies of the State are ready, while the list of remaining three Constituencies will be announced after Jan. 15, with the report of Regional Commissioner (RC) awaited. Following the allegations of dropping voters names from the lists in Mahadevapura, Shivajinagar and Chikkapet Assembly Constituencies, the RC has been directed to vet into the same. If the names are deliberately dropped, such names should be included. Hence, the voters list of these three Constituencies will be announced once the report is received from the RC."

The CEO appealed that "If genuine voters are dropped from the lists, they can include their names by bringing the matter to the notice of respective officers. The genuine voters should not be deprived of the right to vote."

In all, 5,80,531 male voters and 6,50,667 female voters were included in 221 Assembly Constituencies in the State. Of them, 3,07,174 male voters names and 3,11,748 female voters names have been deleted. In the case of third gender, 342 names were included and 43 among them have been deleted, he added.

The total new voters are 26,38,990, while 2,62,854 voters have died and 3,27,488 voters have been transferred and 24,137 voters were repeated.

For 2023 elections, 7,01,243 (7.01 lakh) young voters are enrolled in the State, including 3,88,064 male, 3,13,040 female and 139 others. The gender ratio has touched 988 against 973 in the year 2011. Total 1,00,834 sex workers, 30,517 tribals, 5,09,553 specially abled and 41,317 third gender are included in the voters list, said Manoj Kumar Meena.

Mysuru has 25.59 lakh eligible voters: DC

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (BS)- Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. K.V. Rajendra has said that the final voters list of Mysuru district is out with 25,59,855 (25.59 lakh) eligible voters.

Chairing the meeting of representatives of various political parties at his office in city on Thursday, Dr. Rajendra said: "The voters list of respective Assembly Constituencies are available on the website ***https://ceo.karnataka.gov.in*** of Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka State. The public can verify their names included in the list."

The draft voters list of Mysuru has been revised and the final list has 12,72,155 (12.72 lakh) male voters, 12,87,502 (12.87 lakh) female voters and 198 transgenders, totalling 25,59,855 voters.

For details on voters list of respective taluks, contact following Offices:

Periyapatna - Ph: 08223-274175, K.R. Nagar: 08223-262371 or 262234, Hunsur: 08222-252040, H.D. Kote: 08228-255600, Nanjangud: 08221-223108, Mysuru: 0821-2414811 or 2414812, MCC: 0821-2418800 and T. Narasipur: 08227-260210.

30,650 young voters have enrolled in Mysuru

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (SBD& BS)- As per the final voters list of Mysuru district, 30,650 young voters have enrolled — **Hunsur Assembly Constituency** - 4,075 voters (2,312 male and 1,763 female); **Chamundeshwari** - 3,775 voters (2,054 male, 1,720 female and 1 transgender); **K.R. Nagar -** 3,321 voters (1,529 male, 1,504 female and 2 transgenders), **Narasimharaja (NR)** - 3,219 voters (1,622 male and 1,597 female), **H.D. Kote -** 3,149 voters (1,754 male, 1,394 female & 1 transgender); **Periyapatna -** 2,816 voters (1,529 male, 1,286 female and 1 transgender); **Varuna -** 2,484 voters (1,373 male and 1,111 female); **T. Narasipur** - 2,124 voters (1,130 male and 994 female); **Chamaraja -** 1,986 voters (976 male, 1,009 female & 1 transgender); **Nanjangud -** 1,920 voters (984 male and 936 female); **Krishnaraja (KR):** 1,781 voters (879 male & 902 female).

1.27 percent rise

In the final voters list announced after revision of the draft, there has been an increase in total number of voters by 32,043 (1.27%). In NR alone, the total number of voters have increased by 6,250, Chamundeshwari - 5,730, Varuna - 3,473, Chamaraja - 3,095, Nanjangud - 3,014, KR - 2,848, K.R. Nagar - 2,627, Hunsur - 2,623, Periyapatna - 1,455, T. Narasipur - 493 & H.D. Kote - 435.

Delimitation of ZP, TP Wards: DC invites public opinion, objections

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (BS)- Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. K.V. Rajendra has invited public opinion or objections if any for the delimitation of Wards and capping of the number of elected representatives of Taluk Panchayat (TP) and Zilla Panchayat (ZP) Constituencies, made by Karnataka Panchayat Raj Delimitation Commission.

The details were published on the website of Karnataka Panchayat Raj Delimitation Commission ***https://rdpr.karnataka.gov.in/rdc/public*** and special gazetteer of Karnataka on ***https://erajyapatra.karnataka.gov.in*** on Jan. 2, 2023.

The public opinion or objection can be filed either online on the website of the Commission or personally or through post within Jan. 16, 2023 at the Office of the Commission in Bengaluru, stated the DC in a press release.

Bengaluru to host 17th All India Conference of CITU from Jan. 18 to 22

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (PM&TRR)- The Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) District General Secretary N.K. Balajirao has disclosed that the 17th All India Conference of CITU will be organised at Bangalore Palace Grounds from Jan. 18 to 22. A public meeting will also be held at National College Grounds in Bengaluru on Jan. 22, he added.

Speaking to press persons at Pathrakartara Bhavan on Thursday, he said: "The Conference will echo the sentiments of the people against the anti-people, anti-labour and anti-farmer policies of both Central and State Governments. About 2,000 registered members of CITU are participating and about 10,000 people from Mysuru district will be participating in the public meeting on Jan. 22."

As part of the Conference, a seminar on 'Karnataka Abhivriddhige Kaigarikegalu mattu Dudiyuva Janateya Koduge' will be held on Jan. 8 at 11 am at Mysore City Co-operative Housing Society auditorium, Nala Beedi, K.R. Mohalla, Mysuru.

CITU District President G. Jayaram will preside. CITU State Vice-President V.J.K. Nayar and Joint Labour Commissioner Dr. Ravikumar will address the gathering.

Seminar in Mysuru tomorrow

Youth goes 'missing' after marrying 'FB friend'

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (RK&BS)- In an incident straight out of any Sandalwood potboiler, a youth who befriended a girl on a social networking site and married her, has gone missing, leaving the latter in a fix.

In her complaint to K.R. Police on Jan. 4, the 28-year-old Tulasi a resident of Medarakeri, has stated that her husband K.N. Pradeep, 29 years, has gone missing since Nov. 7, 2022.

Tulasi and Pradeep came into contact on *Facebook* two years ago and soon the friendship blossomed into love. They later started living together at a rented home in Medarakeri.

On Nov. 3, 2022, Pradeep tied the knot to Tulasi near a Peepal tree en route to Chamundi Hill.

After marriage, they went straight to Sub-Registrar's Office to register their marriage, but the officials insisted on furnishing documents like Aadhaar Card and others.

The duo went near KSRTC Sub-Urban Bus Stand mostly to go to their native to bring the documents, when Pradeep told her to go home, saying that his friend was waiting for him. He went inside the stand and didn't return home as promised by him, explained Tulasi in the complaint.

However, Pradeep was in touch with Tulasi over phone till Nov. 7. Since then, his mobile is switched off, Tulasi has stated further in the complaint.

Police have registered a missing case and have launched an investigation.

Alert tourist bus driver averts mishap at Ch. Hill

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (RK&BS)- Alert tourist bus driver averted what could have led to a major mishap as fire was noticed in the vehicle at Chamundi Hill in the city on Friday.

A bus carrying 50-member tourist party from Gujarat was being parked in the exclusive lot after the vehicle reached the shrine in the morning. As the fire started erupting from the silencer, the driver turned off the ignition and alerted the passengers who alighted in no time.

Later, with the help of the public, the driver succeeded in dousing the flame. Upon inspection, it was noticed that the leakage of fuel from diesel pipe had triggered the fire due to the heat. Later the leakage was plugged with the help of a mechanic, facilitating the resumption of their journey.

The presence of mind of the driver, along with general public and Police personnel attached to Chamundi Hill outpost and Siddarthanagar Traffic Police Station was lauded by all.

Four more rowdy-sheeters banished from city for six months

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (KS)- Four more rowdy-sheeters, who have various cases pertaining to dacoity, extortion, murderous assault, threatening with life, indulging in illegal activities and attempt to murder registered against them at various Police Stations across the city, have been banished from city for a period of six months.

According to a press release from the Office of the City Police Commissioner, rowdy-sheeter Satish, a resident of Yaraganahalli New Layout, coming under Alanahalli Police Station limits, who has six cases registered against him at Alanahalli Police Station, has been banished from city to Chamarajanagar district.

Madhusudan alias Madhu R.S. alias Party, a resident of Water Supply Quarters at Veeranagere, coming under Lashkar Police Station limits, who has four cases registered against him at Lashkar, Vidyaranyapuram, Udayagiri and Alanahalli Police Stations, has been banished from city to Hassan district.

Manjunath alias Gende Manja, a resident of Ittegegud near Siddappaji Temple, coming under Nazarbad Police Station limits, who has eight cases registered against him at Nazarbad Police Station, has been banished from city to Kodagu district.

Kumar alias Kapali, a resident of Muniswamynagar, Mahadevapura (Srirampura post) on Manandavadi Road, coming under Vidyaranyapuram Police Station limits, who has seven cases registered against him at Krishnaraja and Vidyaranyapuram Police Stations has been banished from city to Chitradurga district.

Mysuru City Police Commissioner B. Ramesh has stated that if any rowdy-sheeter is found disturbing peace in city, steps will be taken to banish them from city.

Obituary

V. Veerappa

Mysuru, Jan. 7- V. Veerappa (72), a resident of Kuvempunagar, passed away at a private hospital here early this morning.

He leaves behind his wife, three sons including Rohit, a newspaper agent and a host of relatives, friends and family members.

Last rites were performed at Adikarnataka Burial Grounds in Vishveshwaranagar this evening, according to family sources.

Disguised as Cops, two rob elderly woman

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (RK&BS)- A gang of two claiming to be Policemen has robbed a woman of her *mangalya* gold chain weighing 65 grams at New Kantharaj Urs Road near K.G. Koppal in city on Jan. 1. Jayamma, a home-maker and a resident of K.G. Koppal, is the victim, who was relieved of the valuable during broad daylight on that day.

According to Jayamma, she was on foot at around 10.30 am, when a stranger stopped her saying the Police were calling her. After Jayamma went near another stranger who claimed to be a Police, the latter told about a murder reported nearby and the miscreants on a robbery spree making away with the valuables.

He warned Jayamma to be cautious and asked her to remove the chain she was wearing, promising to wrap it in a cover for safety. Meanwhile, another passerby was also called by the strangers duo, who asked him to remove the valuable and separately packed the valuables of the both.

On returning home, shock was in store for Jayamma who found imitating chain upon opening the cover packed by the strangers.

Saraswathipuram Police are investigating the case.

Unidentified man dies at K.R. Hospital

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (KS)- An unidentified man, who was found lying sick near Hinkal Flyover on Dec. 29 and admitted to K.R. Hospital by the public, has breathed his last at the Hospital at about 6.32 am on Jan. 5.

The deceased man is aged about 55 years, 5.5 ft. tall, oval faced, oily red complexioned, sports beard and moustache, has the image of an eagle and 'TIPPU' tattooed on his right hand and the image of a snake and 'KICCHU' tattooed on his left hand. Vijayanagar Police, who have registered a case, have asked the kith and kin of the deceased, if any, to contact Vijayanagar Police on Ph: 0821-2418317/ 117 or Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339.

Man goes missing from city

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (KS)- A 65-year-old man, who left his house at about 7 am on Dec. 23, has since gone missing.

Ranganayaka

The missing man is Ranganayaka, a labourer, who had undergone an eye surgery and was staying at his home since two months.

He is 5.9 ft. tall, oval faced, normal built, dark complexioned and was wearing a white dhoti, blue coloured full arm shirt and was carrying a brown colour towel with him.

Those having any information about the missing person may contact Metagalli Police Station on Ph: 0821-2418115 or Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339, according to a press release.

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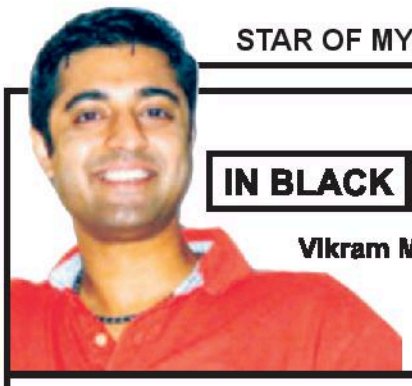


IN BLACK & WHITE

Vikram Muthanna

Of Beard & Men

Whether or not Rahul Gandhi's attempt at political reinvention and rejuvenation via *'Bharat Jodo Yatra'* will succeed is yet to be seen. But what can be seen right now is his bush. His thick 'salt-n-pepper' bushy face has made it to the news.

Last month, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma made a petty comment. He said that Rahul Gandhi's beard resembled that of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein.

This week, Union Minister Ramdas Athawale said Rahul Gandhi might have grown his beard, but that won't help his party grow its numbers in the Lok Sabha.

Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh retorted to this beard-talk by saying, *"Hum vesh nahi, desh badalne aaye hain."* Good. But Rahul Gandhi is so indecisive about his *vesh,* it makes one wonder if he is decisive enough to change our *desh.*

Rahul still needs to figure out what audio-visual image he wants to maintain consistently.

Sometimes he is clean-shaven, dressed in expensive polo shirts and grinning dimple-to-dimple. Next, he is seen sporting light stubble, dressed in a crisp *kurta* and tearing up his own Government's ordinance at live press conferences.

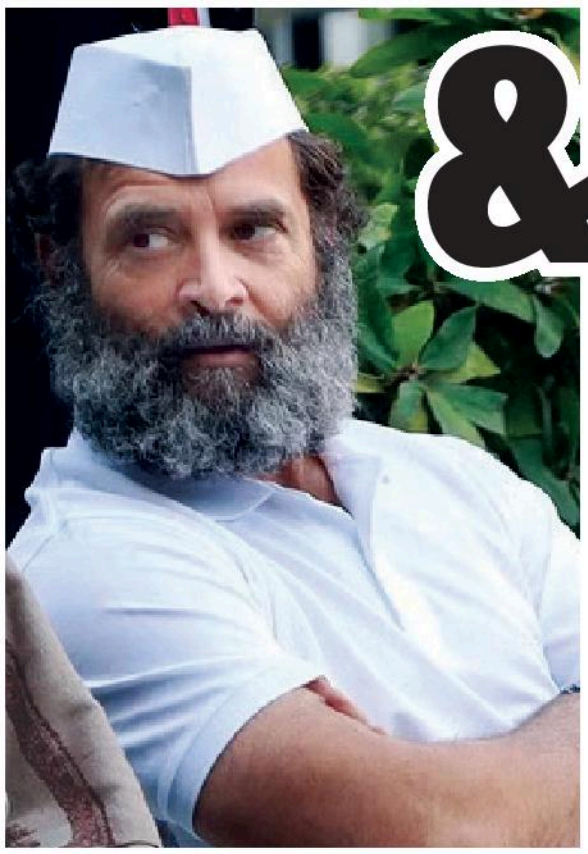
Other times he has thick stubble, is dressed in folded-up sleeves and screeching at the microphone. Now, he is sporting a thick beard, walking like a *fakir* who loves one-and-all while being a politician and trying to be the face of the collective opposition in 2024!

A person who is in the public eye, like Rahul Gandhi, must always maintain a consistent audio-visual appearance. It helps in brand recall. That's why companies rarely change their logo or jingle. Even if they do, it's a slight variation of the previous one, which is altered after much deliberation.

Who knows, maybe we are over-analysing Rahul Gandhi's beard. He may be just following the worldwide trend of growing facial hair.

These days, most young boys and men are sporting a full face of hair. Everyone wants to look macho, even if they are not. Boys want to show they are men; men want to show they are macho men.

Now, this new trend has made men as much a target to cosmetic companies as women. These days we see products like 'Beard Wax', 'Beard Shampoo', 'Beard Balm', 'Beard Scrub' and 'Moustache Softener'... There was even a 'Beard and Moustache comb'!



Now narcissistic men have to keep two combs in their pockets — one for the head and another for their face!

Interestingly, while men are being encouraged to grow their facial hair, they are being told to shave or trim off hair from the rest of their body! There has been a visible increase in advertisements for male body grooming devices.

It is also interesting to know that quite a few modern women find bearded men attractive. There are exclusive websites for women who fancy bearded men, such as *Bristlr.com, Beardiful.com* and *Lumbermatch.com.*

But beware, women, all that facial hair could be covering a weak chin, a bad jaw-line or even an embarrassing skin condition.

More importantly, don't be impressed with bearded men thinking they are wise because, as the saying goes, "If wisdom were to be measured by the length of the beard, then even a goat would be philosopher-king."

Carefully cultivated looks are often a strategy of people in public life. Their image helps in subliminal messaging. It is said that Aaditya Thackeray, son of Shiv Sena's Uddhav Thackeray, used to walk around dressed in a T-shirt, jeans and a clean-shaven face. When the time came for allotting Ministries and positions, there were loud murmurs about how he looked like a college kid. Soon he got a maker over. Aaditya started sporting formal clothes and a beard.

Numerous surveys have reported that people with beards are perceived as more trustworthy and tough. So is Rahul hoping that the beard would evoke trust among the voters?

Is he also trying to show that he is working hard by walking across the nation with his thick-aged beard so it evokes voters' sympathy? Or is he walking and inviting one and all hoping to be the face of the collective opposition in 2024? Who knows?

He could learn about the power of consistency of visual images from the two influential women of his life. His grandmother Indira Gandhi and his mother, Sonia Gandhi.

Indira Gandhi's dress, hairstyle and dictation were consistent throughout her political career. The short hair, the tough talk, and the crisp sarees went well with her image as the 'Iron Lady' of India. Sonia Gandhi, too, has been consistent in her dignified sartorial choices and style.

Rahul Gandhi's constantly changing visage reminds one of the movie *'Forrest Gump'* where the hero grows a long beard on his journey to rediscover himself. Rahul Gandhi's image inconsistency reminds me of a dialogue from the same movie: *"Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get."*

Similarly, Rahul Gandhi is like a box of chocolates. You never know what he's up to next. For all you know, after this *yatra,* he might get a clean shave and leave for a foreign holiday, leaving behind petrified Congress workers to fend for themselves.

P.S. - If Rahul's *yatra* and beard don't deliver electoral success, he could try a blood transfusion. Remember, a senior Congress leader sometime back pointed out that blood group is connected to being PM in the Gandhi family?! He said that both Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi were O-ve (O negative), and they became Prime Ministers. But unfortunately, Sonia and Rahul belong to O+ve (O positive) blood group! But guess who O-ve is? Priyanka Gandhi.

e-mail: vikram@starofmysore.com

BJP SC Morcha National Executive Meet

(Continued from page 1)

Stating that the Congress, which often boasts of social justice and empowerment of the downtrodden, insulted Dr. Ambedkar till he was alive, BJP leader C.T. Ravi said it seems the Congress has developed a sudden love for Ambedkar just for the sake of votes.

Highlighting the various schemes and programmes introduced by the BJP for the welfare of Dalits, C.T. Ravi reiterated that BJP was committed to the development of SC/ST communities.

Pointing out that a debate is going on in the country regarding the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), he said that it is disappointing to note that Congress is against it. Even Dr. Ambedkar too was in favour of UCC, he added.

BJP SC Morcha National President Lal Singh Arya, State President Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, District Minister S.T. Somashekar, Mayor Shivakumar, MUDA Chairman Yashaswi Somashekar, former MLC Siddaraju, MLAs S.A. Ramdas, N. Mahesh and L. Nagendra, City BJP President T.S. Srivatsa, Union Ministers A. Narayanaswamy, Virendra Kumar and Koushal Kishore, BJP National Sanghataks V. Satish and Dushyantkumar Gautam, former SC Morcha Presidents Dr. Sanjay Paswan and Ramapati Shastri and other office-bearers were present.

The Lalitha Mahal Hotel was decked up for the occasion with party flags, cutouts and flex boards carrying pictures of Prime Minister Modi, BJP National President J.P. Nadda, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Chief Minister Bommai, District Minister S.T. Somashekar, State BJP Chief Nalin Kumar Kateel, former CM B.S. Yediyurappa and a host of National and State Executive Office-bearers.

Also, all roads leading to the venue and prominent junctions and Circles were dotted with party flags, banners and buntings. The meeting will conclude tomorrow.

Irked by queries on 'Santro' Ravi, CM says probe ordered

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (MTY&BCT)- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai denied having links with alleged racketeer and a criminal with a history sheet of human trafficking 'Santro' Ravi (K.S. Manjunath).

"I have asked the Mysuru City Police Commissioner to arrest 'Santro' Ravi and a detailed investigation will be taken up by the Mysuru and Bengaluru City Police on his operations in both the cities and at Kumarakrupa Guest House in Bengaluru and his connection with political party leaders. No one will be spared," the CM said while addressing reporters at Mysore Airport this noon.

As soon as the CM arrived and exchanged pleasantries with the reporters, he had to face a barrage of questions and a visibly irked Bommai told them, "Neither I am an officer who replies to questions by reporters nor are you investigation officers." "If no action has been taken on 'Santro' Ravi till now, how can I be blamed for that," he questioned.

The CM's statement came even as Congress shared a photograph purportedly showing 'Santro' Ravi with his son Bharath Bommai. Also, photographs of 'Santro' Ravi with Home Minister Araga Jnanendra, Health Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar and Primary and Secondary Education Minister B.C. Nagesh went viral.

An audio clip purportedly between a Dy.SP and 'Santro' Ravi discussing a transfer deal were widely shared as well. In the clip, 'Santro' Ravi claims he is a close associate of Chief Minister and several BJP Ministers, and promises to facilitate Police transfers. He also tells the officer that the CM addresses him as "Sir".

When reporters insisted on his comments on the links of 'Santro' Ravi, Bommai said, "These days with technology anyone can edit voices, photos and videos. Sometimes we do not know with whom we are interacting. Only an investigation will reveal the truth. I have given a go-ahead for a probe where Ministers of my Government, myself, my son and even the past CMs and Ministers will be investigated."

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Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520 / 2496521 / 2496522 / 2496523 / 2496526 / 2496527 / 2496528. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.

Abracadabra... Abracadabra...

By K.B. Ganapathy

Musings on last days of Spiritual Masters of *Sanatana Dharma*

The primordial question to mankind is found in the *Rigveda* (8,000 years old). The question is: **Who knows and who can say whence it all came and how creation happened?**

This question, intriguingly, is followed not by an answer but by another question: **The Gods themselves are later than creation, so who knows truly whence it has arisen?**

Here **'it'** means creation. It is inexorable. This might be the reason why Hindu religion is called *Sanatana Dharma* (eternal truth) and is different from all other religions in the world. Its belief, way of worship, idolatry, rituals and theology. **If the Gods themselves are later than creation, then the multiple Gods we have must be the creation of man!**

It is possible, the French Philosopher, writer Voltaire declared that 'If there was no God, it would be necessary to invent one' after realising that God is man's creation. Bible says "God created man in his own image..." No sir. Going by the *Rigveda*, it must be the man who created Gods after his (man's) image or imagination! For whatever reason Voltaire realised the importance of God in human affairs.

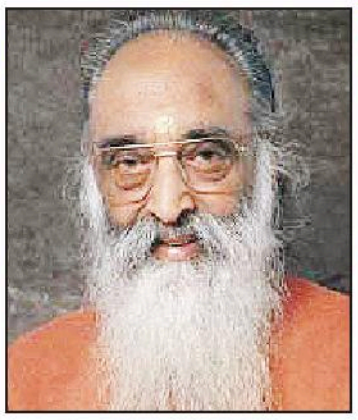
Once God is 'created,' it is inevitable there must be religions, devotees of Gods and men pursuing the path of God who is considered omnipresent, omnipotent and omniscient.

These men are revered by the laymen variously as Saints, Sanyasis, Rishis, Munis, Monks, Priests and Spiritual Masters. Shepherds of their flock! They serve their followers, as heads of their distinct religion or individually giving public discourses on matters God and religion.

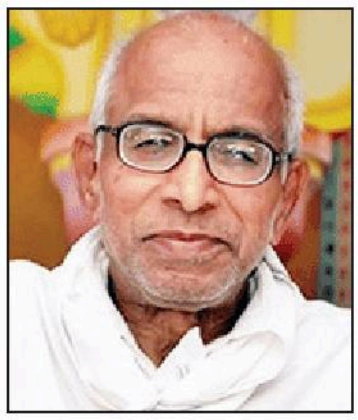
To this category we can include **Sri Siddeshwara Swamiji** of Jnanayogashram, Vijayapura, who passed away on Jan. 2, 2023, **Swami Chinmayananda** and **Osho Rajneesh** who sought not only individual salvation but also salvation for the seekers.

I have seen and heard these three Spiritual Masters and when Sri Siddeshwara Swamiji passed away I began to contemplate on their last days — the way they died, the way their funeral was held, the way their mortal bodies were consigned — to fire or earth — and what remains of them now.

Osho Rajneesh



Swami Chinmayananda



Sri Siddeshwara Swamiji

I have found one thing in common among these three — they are real *Jnanis*, intellectuals with oceanic spiritual knowledge, enlightened, realised persons but each with his own personal way of life.

If Osho Rajneesh is a mystic, appearing like a cult figure with his own brand of followers, mostly westerners, Swami Chinmayananda and Sri Siddeshwara Swamiji are of the common clay, communicating in a language easily understandable to the congregation.

While Swami Chinmayananda would speak in English and famous for his 'Gita Jnana Yajna', Sri Siddeshwara Swamiji would speak on life-lessons with parables and anecdotes drawn from *Sharana* literature, Saint Basavanna, Vedas and great Hindu epics in the local language Kannada. And he would speak the kind of Kannada that is phonetically different from the Kannada spoken here in South Karnataka. Like Buddha teaching in the local language of Pali.

Having read about the last days and death of some of our Godmen and Spiritual Masters, I get the feeling God has not intervened in the matter of their health and death. We heard and read about the devotees of these Religious Heads and Spiritual Masters, all over the world, offering prayers to their respective Gods to intervene and cure the sick Religious Head or a Spiritual Master in his death bed but at the end death triumphs.

And when death comes, it comes stealthily or sometimes violently or painfully. Osho Rajneesh, for example, was always keeping a highly sensitive and delicate health. According to reports, the official cause for death was heart failure. He died rather young at the age of 58. According to the Ashram sources, he died because he was living in a 'body that had become hell' after he was allegedly poisoned in US jails while he was there.

However, the most unusual and intriguing part of Osho's death was in **cremating his body within an hour of his death** for whatever reason. It could be his wish. Characteristically his epitaph reads *'Never Born, Never Died Only visited this Planet Earth between December 11, 1931 and January 19, 1990.'* Needless to say that the text was written by himself. Wonder without body, how he could visit this planet and can we expect his second visit to this planet. Let it be.

As for Swami Chinmayananda, he lived upto the age of 77 and always had chronic heart problems and he died of the same problem. He died following a bypass surgery in America. A *Mahasamadhi* Shrine has been built in Himachal Pradesh where he was laid to rest.

However, in the case of Sri Siddeshwara Swamiji who lived a simple spartan life and died at the age of 82, he seemed stoic and a *Sthitaprajna* (of great mental equanimity) during his illness. He refused medical treatment after few days in hospital and also food. Apparently he decided on *Ichcha Marana* (self willed death). Like the patriarch Bhishmacharya in *Mahabharata* epic and many Jain Saints. As a true Yogi, he left the world without much ado but lakhs and lakhs of his devotees came in waves to mourn and pay their last respects. Surely, Sri Siddeshwara Swamiji was a People's Guru. Mahaguru.

Swami Chinmayananda's body was laid to rest in accordance with Vedic rituals and that of Osho Rajneesh was cremated hurriedly and ashes placed in a newly built bedroom at the Ashram with an epitaph mentioned earlier. However, Sri Siddeshwara Swamiji's ashes were immersed in river.

A wag asked me while discussing the death of these Saints and Sanyasis, Yogis and Godmen: "Why we don't hear any of them making the 'body donation' to medical colleges?" Shut up. You stupid, I retorted.

By the way, I consider man as the greatest creator of waste on this planet. The governments and also the social activists are engaged in disposing of the waste so created and working to check creation of domestic and industrial wastes. Fortunately, when a man is dead he becomes a degradable waste and as such there is no problem. However, after cremation, ashes are collected and either preserved or immersed in rivers. When this was discussed, a friend said that he would leave a WILL wherein he would ask for cremation much against the ritual of his religion and then for his ashes to be used as manure to plants and not immersed in the rivers, holy or polluted. After all, ashes make good manure.

Om Shanti Shanti Shantihi

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Sisters to perform at Hill Temple

Ranjani and Gayatri

Mysuru, Jan. 7- A Karnatak Classical Music Concert by Vidushis Ranjani-Gayatri Sisters will be held at Chamundi Hill Temple premises tomorrow (Jan. 8) between 6 pm and 8.30 pm under the aegis of TVS Motor Company Limited, which has been organising music concert at the Hill Temple every year during *Dhanurmasa*. The duo will be accompanied by H.M. Smitha on violin, K. Saigiridhar on mridanga and S. Krishna on ghata.

The organisers have arranged free transportation from following places to Chamundi Hill: Bidaram Krishnappa's Sitarama Mandira (N.S. Road), Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha (JLB Road), Veene Seshanna Bhavan (Adichunchanagiri Road), Sri Chandramouleshwara Temple (Vontikoppal), Prasanna Ganapathi Temple (N.R. Mohalla), Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashram (Ooty Road), Doctor's Corner (Gokulam), Rajendra Kalamandira (Ramanuja Road) and Goblimara and Police Booth (J.P. Nagar) at 4.45 pm. For details, call Mob: 96866-00263 or 85480-79641.

State-level Children's Theatre-Folk Fest

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (SSM)- Sanchalana Mysuru, in association with Directorate of Kannada and Culture, Bengaluru, has organised a five-day State-level Children's Theatre and Folk festival from Jan. 9 to 13 at Kiru Rangamandira in Rangayana premises at 6 pm on all days.

The inauguration of Children's Folk festival will be held at 4.30 pm on Jan. 9 at Kiru Rangamandira. Kannada and Culture Department, Mysuru, Joint Director V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy, Mysuru Zilla Havyasi Rangakarmigala Vedike Hon. Secretary Dr. Kumaraswamy and others will be present. Students from Shakthidhama, Mysuru, Gorur Government Higher Primary School and Dadadahalli Government High School in Saragur will perform various art form including Puja Kunita, Veeragase and Kamsale. Children's Theatre festival will be inaugurated same day at 6 pm. MLA G.T. Devegowda, Mayor Shivakumar and others will be present.

The five-day festival will feature various plays, dance and art forms along with stage programmes. Valedictory function will be held on Jan. 13 at 6 pm. There will be no entry fee.

SVYM Founder calls on President at Rashtrapati Bhavan

Dr. R. Balasubramaniam discusses tribal empowerment with Droupadi Murmu

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (BCT)- Member of Human Resources, Capacity Building Commission (CBC) Dr. R. Balasubramaniam, who is also the Founder of Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM), and Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM) Mysuru, met President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi recently.

It was a courtesy call where Dr. Balu discussed various facets of tribal development with the President who hails from the tribal community in Odisha's Mayurbhanj, one of the most remote and underdeveloped districts of the country.

Dr. Balu's SVYM has grown to be one of India's finest NGOs by making a difference and a positive impact on the lives of the tribal communities. He has extensive experience in working with the tribals and fostering their empowerment.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, Dr. Balasubramaniam said that he called on the President as it is a matter of great pride for him to meet India's First Citizen and the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces as he spent most of his life amidst tribal communities primarily in Mysuru and H.D. Kote.

"I discussed in detail the real human development of tribals that can take place where tribals are engaged in the conversation. We always see tribals as people who are the recipients of largesse, especially from the State. I told the President that we have to change that paradigm," he revealed.

"In fact, we have to learn from tribals about sustainable development and coexistence and the rest of the society should understand it. I was very inspired by the President's groundedness, and her understanding of the grassroots realities and I really felt that she is the true People's President," he noted.

"My discussion with her centred on understanding tribal development from her point of view — treating tribals not with sympathy but with empathy. After the courtesy call, the President asked for copies of my books and I shared them with her," he added. Dr. Balu presented the President with his books — *'I, The Citizen'*, *'Voices from the Grassroots'*, *Swami Vivekananda As I See Him'* and *'Leadership Lessons for Daily Living.'*

Guest lecturers continue stir

Varsity officials' bid to pacify fails

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (SPN, PM&BS)- The guest lecturers protest urging for fulfilment of various demands entered the fourth day today. The guest lecturers under the banner of University of Mysore (UoM) Guest Lecturers Association are on an indefinite strike near Kuvempu's statue at the entrance of Manasagangothri, demanding the revision in pay scale to Rs. 37,000 and other facilities.

MLA Dr. Yathindra Siddharamaiah, MLCs A. H. Vishwanath, Dr. D. Thimmaiah and Marithibbegowda, District Congress President Dr. B. J. Vijayakumar, former member of University of Mysore Syndicate N. S. Gopinath, Aam Aadmi Party Mysuru District Convener Malavika Gubbivani, BSP leader R. Purushotham and several other leaders visited the protest venue and extended their solidarity to the stir yesterday.

Earlier, guest lecturers Dr. Chandrashekar, Dr. Girish, Dr. Vijay, Dr. Rekha Srinivas, Dr. Sowjanya and Dr. Girish who are in the lead of the protest locked the main gate of Manasagangothri from 9.30 am to 11 am and raised slogans against the officials.

They reiterated their demands for implementing the revised pay scale in compliance with the decision of Varsity Syndicate meeting held on 22.8.2022, followed by creation of the posts of 'Assistant Professor' with a pay band of Rs. 50,000. The salary should be credited within fifth of every month and the women guest lecturers should be given maternity allowance.

The decision to pay the old salary of Rs. 28,000 to thousands of guest lecturers working at Maharaja's College and Yuvaraja's College, Evening College, Hassan, Mandya and Chamarajanagar coming under the ambit of UoM will barely do any justice to them. Hence the revised pay scale should be implemented at the earliest, they demanded.

Even when the UoM Registrar V.R. Shylaja, Registrar (Evaluation) Dr. A.P. Jnana Prakash and other Officers made a bid to broker the truce, the agitators refused to budge.

The officials said, "The acting Vice-Chancellor is on tour and the issue will be brought to the notice on his return to the city. A decision will be taken soon after holding a discussion, as it is not possible otherwise."

Irked, the agitators started raising slogans forcing the UoM officials to vacate the spot.

Adding to the increasing number of leaders extending their support to the ongoing protest of guest lecturers, MLC Madhu G. Madegowda, Congress leader Harish Gowda and Corporator J. Gopi visited the protest site today. They gave a patient hearing to the demands of the protesters and also joined the sit-in demonstration for a while.

'No cure for greed in society,' rues former Lokayukta Justice Santosh Hegde

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (MK&BS)- Former Lokayukta Justice N. Santosh Hegde has said that there is a cure for Coronavirus and cancer, but not for greed. If people develop a sense of satisfaction and human values, the greed can be addressed to some extent, if not eradicated completely, he said.

Justice Hegde was in city to attend the talent award and anniversary celebration of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Pratishtana at District Kannada Sahitya Bhavan in Vijayanagar recently.

"If one leads a life within the available resources, one can live a life of satisfaction. I have handled many roles, but it was only after joining Lokayukta did I witness several injustices. When delved deeper, I could understand that it was not the fault of the persons, but of the society, as the people prefer to go along with the demands of the society. When we were children, the society was ostracising the guilty. If one was jailed, the parents were restraining their children from going to their homes. It was indeed a social stigma and hence people were afraid to indulge in any wrongdoings," he said.

Nowadays, the society is more wealth-and-power-oriented with least regard for the honest. Such is the attitude that the very mention of an honest person will be met with witty remarks, rued Justice Hegde.

Most of the values inculcated by elders have vanished, with avarice topping all. To circumspect with, the Jeep scam of 1950 saw some people swindling Rs. 52 lakh. While in 1960, a scam worth Rs. 64 crore in procuring foreign arms hit the country. The Commonwealth Games scam saw irregularities to the tune of Rs. 70,000 crore, followed by Rs. 1.7 lakh crore in 2G scam, Rs 1.8 lakh crore Coal scam. How can one expect the country's development with crores of rupees going down in the scam? questioned Justice Hegde.

The size of budget of Karnataka State is lost in one scam and it shows the gravity of irregularities, he noted. The Opposition parties in the State have been calling the ruling party as '40 percent commission Government'. If the ruling party shoots back asking the extent of commission when they (Opposition party) were in power, the latter bills it as '10 percent' without caring a hoot. If greed and corruption continues in society, then the society will be bereft of peace and harmony, regretted Justice Hegde.

Nowadays there is a trend that people offer a rousing welcome to those who are released from the jail. They are greeted with garlands made of apple and we should retrospect on the message such acts circulate in the society, he observed.

Instead of raising slogans in favour of such persons, we should dig deep into their background and the manner in which they acquired wealth. If one wants to set a precedent for others, they should first acquire human values. Even if you rake in a moolah, earning crores of rupees, it should be within the ambit of law, said Justice Hegde.

Kannada Professor Dr. M.G. Manjunath, Assistant Professor in Maharani's Arts College Dr. M. Munikempegowda and Dr. T.L. Jagadish were felicitated on the occasion. The talent award was distributed to the students.

Commissioner of Kempegowda Development Authority R. Vinaydeep, former member of Karnataka Appellate Tribunal H.Jayadev, former Mayor H.N. Srikantaiah, Corporator Shanthakumari, President of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Pratistana Marimallaiah, advocate Ananthaswamy, Mahatma Gandhi Grameenabhivruddhi Trust President T.G. Adiseshan Gowda and Organising Secretary C.Venkatesh were present on the occasion.

EVENTS TODAY (JAN. 7)

- **Sahara Art and Crafts Shopping Festival-2022:** Handicraft and Handloom expo-cum-sale, Scouts and Guides Grounds, behind DC's Office, **up to 9.30 pm.**
- **Nagarika Vedike - Poorna Prajna Vidya Kendra:** Annual Day, former MLC D. Madegowda lights the lamp, Nagarika Vedike President B.P. Puttaswamy presides, actor Pavan Tej and International sportsperson M.D. Nagendra chief guests, Ganabharathi, Kuvempunagar, **4.30 pm.**
- **ISKCON Mysore:** Sri Sri Krishna Balarama Ratha Yatra, inauguration at Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple, Palace North Gate, **4.30 pm;** Ratha Yathra from Palace to ISKCON Temple, **5.30 pm to 8.30 pm;** Arati with Sankirtan, ISKCON Temple, Jayanagar, **8.30 pm.**
- **District Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Mysuru, Himalaya Pratishtana, Mysuru and Rotary Club of Mysore Stars:** Talk on 'Yoga Bhishma BKS Iyengar - Life achievements' by well-known Sanskrit Vidushi Dr. K. Leela Prakash and conferring of 'BKS Iyengar Sadhbhavana Prashasti' on yoga achievers — B. Shantaram, Jayakumar Swamishri, N. Sridhar, Mukundan, Nandini Murthy, M.P. Ramesh Babu, N. Malatesh Acharya, G. Venkatesh and Roshan Arehole, former MP C.H. Vijayashankar inaugurates, MLC C.N. Manjegowda offers floral tributes to BKS Iyengar's portrait, Paramahamsa Yoga Mahavidyalaya Chairman Yoga Praveena Shivaprakash Guruji presides, senior Yogacharya S.V. Venkateshaiah, spiritual thinker V. Murali and Rotary Club of Mysore Stars President Santosh Kumar Gowda chief guests, Purushotham comperes, Kannada Bhavan, District Kannada Sahitya Parishat premises, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, **5.30 pm.**
- **Nadavidyalaya Academy of Music and Dance, Hebbal:** Bharatanatyam Rangapravesha of H. Sai Prarthana Rao and Guru Vandana to Guru Vidushi Mithra Naveen; Vidushi Choodamani Rao, Bharatanatyam artiste, Vidwan M. Rudraradhya, Medical Records Officer, NIMHANS and violinist, Bengaluru, Sneha Sudheendra (Vyjayanthimala), Akashvani Sugama Sangeetha artiste, Mysuru, guests of honour; Programme direction, Vidushi Mithra Naveen - Choreography and Nattuvanga, Vidwan Naveen M.S. Andagar - vocal, Vidwan Vivek Krishna - flute, Vidwan G.S. Nagraj - mridanga and Dr. Bhuvaneshwari - compere, RamaGovinda Rangamandira, Ramakrishnanagar, **5.30 pm.**
- **Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha, Mysuru:** Karnatak Classical Vocal recital by Vidu. Ashwini Kolikkaje accompanied by Vidu. C.V.Shruti on Violin, Vid. Nandan Kashyap on Mridanga and Vid. Shamith Gowda on Ghata, Mysore K. Vasudevacharya Bhavana, JLB Road, Lakshmipuram, **6 pm.**
- **Malini Nritya Shale mattu Samskrutika Kendra, Mysuru and Directorate of Kannada & Culture, Bengaluru:** Bharatanatyam recital, Sri Lakshmi Venkateshwara Temple, KRS Road, Vontikoppal, **6 pm.**
- **Sree Andal Mandiram Trust and Hebbar Sreevyshnava Rural District Upa Sabha, Mysuru:** Dhanurmasa Puja, Discourse on 'Thiruppavai' by Vid. M.K. Shelvanarayana, Mandiram premises, Temple Road, V.V. Mohalla, **6 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Kalasuruchi:** Vishwanatha Mirle Children's English Play Festival, staging of play 'Sunset Dreams' by Excel Public School and 'Good heavens!' by Maharshi Public School, Suruchi Rangamane, Kuvempunagar, **6 pm.** [98451-12667]
- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram:** Swami Maheshanandaji speaks on 'Selected letters of Swami Vivekananda,' Ashram premises, Yadavagiri, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Mahajana Sabha:** Tirupavai Kalakshepa (discourse) by Vid. Mudumbai Ramanuja Sharma, Sri Krishnamurthypuram Sri Rama Mandira, Kantaraja Urs Road, **6.15 pm to 7.15 pm.**
- **Hebbar Sri Vaishnava Upasabha, K.R. Vanam:** Tirupavai Kalakshepa (discourse) by Dr. N.K. Ramasheshan, Dr. Kamalaraman Mandira, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Road, **6.15 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Sri Venugopalaswamy Temple:** Discourse on 'Thiruppavai' by Vidu. B.K. Seethalakshmi, Temple premises, Tyagaraja Road, near Sai Baba Mandira, **6.30 pm.**
- **The Cosmology Education and Research Training Centre (COSMOS), Mysuru, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru and University of Mysore:** Sky Watch, Vijnana Bhavan, Manasagangothri campus, **6.30 pm.** [Event will be subject to clear skies and on first-cum-first-serve basis - Contact Mob: 63621-59474]

EVENTS TOMORROW (JAN. 8)

- **Sri Venugopalaswamy Temple:** Dhanurmasa special pujas, Shattu Murai, Mahamangalarathi, **5 am to 6.30 am;** Discourse on 'Thiruppavai' by Vidu. B.K. Seethalakshmi, Temple premises, Tyagaraja Road, near Sai Baba Mandira, **6.30 pm.**
- **Government Ayurveda Research Centre, Mysuru, Dakshina Kannada and Karavali Jilla Sanghagala Okkuta (DK&KSJO), Sri Yoganarasimhaswamy Temple, Mysuru:** Free Ayurveda Screening Camp, Prof. Bhashyam Swamiji of Sri Yoganarasimhaswamy Temple graces the occasion, MLA L. Nagendra inaugurates, Mayor Shivakumar and Corporator Subbaiah guests of honour, MDJA President S.T. Ravikumar (RK), Mysuru Hotel Owners Association President C. Narayanagowda, DK&KSJO President Gracious Rodriguez, DK&KSJO Secretary Narayana Hegde, GSS Yoga Founder Yogatm Srihari, Assistant Director Dr. Lakshminarayana Shenoy and Ravindra Gore of Gore Associates (Mysuru) chief guests, Sri Yoganarasimhaswamy Temple premises, Vijayanagar, **10 am to 2 pm.**
- **Music Concerts:** Karnatak Music Vocal Concert by Vid. Aditya Mohan from Chennai, accompanied by Vid. Rupanagudi Ratnateja on violin and Vid. M.R. Manjunath on mridanga, Mysore K. Vasudevacharya's house, near Agrahara, **10.30 am.**
- **Sree Kalanikethana College of Visual Art, Mysuru:** Traditional Painting Expo, Sree Kalanikethana School of Art, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, **10.30 am to 4 pm.**
- **Sahara Art and Crafts Shopping Festival-2022:** Handicraft and Handloom expo-cum-sale, Scouts and Guides Grounds, behind DC's Office, **10.30 am to 9.30 pm.**
- **Prof. K. Venkatagirigowda Samskrutika mattu Shaikshanika Parishat, Mysuru and Hanyalu Prakashana, Mysuru:** Book release — 'Yellamma: Dakshina Bharatada Devate' (translated book) and 'Drishya-Kavya' (poetry collection) authored by Alakere J. Ramalingegowda (retd. Additional Commissioner, Commercial Tax Department) — retd. teacher and writer Lolakshamma Kerodi and retd. Joint Commissioner of Commercial Tax Department A.T. Dasegowda will speak about the book, retd. KIKS Director Dr. D.K. Rajendra presides, Dr. B.C. Vijay Kumar comperes, Rotary West, Saraswathipuram, **10.30 am.**
- **Roopa Prakashana, Mysuru:** Releasing of three editions of 'Subraya Chikkodi Samagra Barahagalu' — 'Ontamaleya Dhyana', 'Kathaloka' and 'Avalokana' — by critic O.L. Nagabhushan Swamy, writer Abdul Rasheed presides, writer Sindhu Rao and cartoonist Dinesh Kukkujadka will speak about the book and the author, Subraya Chikkodi will be present, Ideal Jawa auditorium, Rotary School, JLB Road, **10.30 am.**
- **Basaveshwara Balaga:** Mandya's Mallamma Siddalingaiah Memorial Endowment, lecture on 'Akkana Vairagyada Vaishishtate' by Devaraju P. Chikkahalli, Vice-Principal, Pandit's Orchid PU College, Kumarabeedu, Dr. C. Sharath Kumar, President, Basaveshwara Balaga and Director, Mediwave IVF & Fertility Research Hospital, Mysuru, presides, K.B. Prabhuswamy, Hon. President, Basaveshwara Balaga and Sunanda Palanetra, former Mayor, Mysuru, chief guests, Satya Sai Baba School, opp. Mahajana Law College, Jayalakshmipuram, **11.30 am.**
- **Kalpavruksha Samskrutika Parishat:** Prize distribution ceremony of Third Year Cricket Tournament for Archakas, Aagamikas and Jyotishis, former MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev and Bharati Convention Hall Owner Shakti Jeevan will distribute prizes, State Rajyotsava Award and Media Academy Award recipient Dr. MGR Urs presides, Sri Puttaraja Gawai Stadium, J.P. Nagar, **3 pm.**
- **Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha, Mysuru:** 67th Anniversary and Award Function in Memory of Dr. A.K. Gopalarajan, conferring of 'Nadabrahma' title on Vid. S. Shankar, conferring of 'Nadakishori' title on Vidu. Ashwini Kolikkaje and Prizes Distribution to the winners of Nadakishorotsava-2022; Karnatak Classical Vocal Concert by Vidwan S. Shankar, accompanied by Vid. R. Achyut Rao on violin, Vid. H.L. Shivashankaraswamy on mridanga and Vid. M.R. Manjunath on ghata, Mysore K. Vasudevacharya Bhavan, JLB Road, Lakshmipuram, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram:** Swami Aghaharanandaji speaks on 'Swami Brahmanandarondige Swami Vivekanandaru,' Ashram premises, Yadavagiri, **6 pm.**
- **Sree Andal Mandiram Trust and Hebbar Sreevyshnava Rural District Upa Sabha, Mysuru:** Dhanurmasa Puja, Discourse on 'Thiruppavai' by Vid. M.K. Shelvanarayana, Mandiram premises, Temple Road, V.V. Mohalla, **6 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Kalasuruchi:** Vishwanatha Mirle Children's English Play Festival, staging of play 'Dream Seller' by Gopalaswamy Shishuvhara, 'When Mother Raised the Flag' by Acharya Vidyakula and 'The Preamble' by Arivu Shikshana Samsthe, Suruchi Rangamane, Kuvempunagar, **6 pm.** [Mob: 98451-12667]
- **Sri Mahajana Sabha:** Tirupavai Kalakshepa (discourse) by Vid. Mudumbai Ramanuja Sharma, Sri Krishnamurthypuram Sri Rama Mandira, Kantaraja Urs Road, **6.15 pm to 7.15 pm.**
- **Hebbar Sri Vaishnava Upasabha, K.R. Vanam:** Tirupavai Kalakshepa (discourse) by Dr. N.K. Ramasheshan, Dr. Kamalaraman Mandira, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Road, **6.15 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Devagitam Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** Dance recital by renowned dancer Dr. Rohitha Eswer and Chinmayee Bharadwaj in commemoration of H. Yoganarasimham's 125th anniversary, RamaGovinda Rangamandira, Ramakrishnanagar, **6.30 pm.**
- **Rangayana:** Staging of Dharamvir Bharati's play 'Andha Yug' (translated to Kannada by Siddalinga Pattanashetty & Tippeswamy), Bhoomigeeta, Rangayana premises, **6.30 pm.**
- **Natana School of Theatre Arts:** Staging of play 'Tayiyaguvudendare' by Ranga Hridaya, Hassan, written and enacted by Pooja Raghunandan, directed by Krishnamurthy Kavattar, Natana premises, Ramakrishnanagar, **6.30 pm.**

Outcome-based education need of the hour: VTU VC

10th International Conference on Transformations in Engineering Education for Sustainable Development at VVCE

VTU Vice-Chancellor Dr. S. Vidyashankar is seen inaugurating the Conference at VVCE in city yesterday as others look on.

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (BCT)- The Tenth International Conference on 'Transformations in Engineering Education for Sustainable Development (ICTIEE) - 2023' was inaugurated at Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering (VVCE) by Dr. S. Vidyashankar Vice-Chancellor, Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi, on Jan. 6.

Over 400 delegates from renowned institutes across the world and all over India are attending the five-day conference that will conclude tomorrow, Jan. 8. The conference is seeing many leadership sessions, panel discussions, over 16 workshops, 18 keynotes by global experts and the presentation of 92 research papers.

In his address, Dr. Vidyashankar spoke on the transformations of engineering education and how it has brought about a dramatic change to meet global challenges and deliver higher sustainable and knowledge-based development levels.

"From merely a chalk-and-board classroom engagement, teaching practices have moved to a platform where a holistic approach to engineering is being promoted. The current curriculum developments have moved from teacher-centric pedagogy methods to student-centric learning methods," he explained.

Rapid advancement in technology and economic globalisation necessitates education to be designed towards an outcome-based education model, he opined and emphasised that Karnataka is the first State in India to adopt the National Education Policy (NEP)-2020 proposed by Dr. Kasthurirangan, former Chairman of ISRO and his team to bring in a multi- and inter-disciplinary approach.

He lauded the efforts of Dr. B. Sadashive Gowda, Principal, VVCE and Dean (Faculty Affairs, VTU) for instituting training for teachers through online programmes and courses for outcome-based modules.

Executive Director, Indo Universal Collaboration for Engineering Education (IUCEE) Dr. Krishna Vedula set the context for the conference in his talk on outcome-based learning. His mantra "I am teaching, are they learning?" focused on introducing aspects of problem-based learning and design thinking, and sharing best practices in developing an ecosystem for improving the quality of engineering education.

He remarked that the IUCEE family now encompassed 52 institutions with 10,000 faculty members and 2 lakh students of which 1,000 faculty members have received IIEECP (IUCEE International Engineering Educators Certification Programme) certification. 31 of these institutes have active teaching and learning centres and are taking a zonal approach to transforming engineering education.

Gundappa Gowda, Hon. President, Vidyavardhaka Sangha (VVS), emphasised 'Jnana' or knowledge. He lamented that the forest cover is down by 75 percent and there is no river in India which is left unpolluted. This situation has to be changed, he said.

The conference souvenir was released to mark the occasion. Er P. Vishwanath, Hon. Secretary, VVS, Shrishaila Ramannanavar, Hon. Treasurer, VVS and Dr. B. Sadashive Gowda, Principal, VVCE were present.

An exhibition is also being held in which edTech companies such as Dassault Systems, MathWorks, Linquid Instruments, Ion Education, L&T EduTech and Vigyanlabs innovation are demonstrating education solutions.

The student teams are also showcasing sustainability-based projects.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** — Ph: 2520494
  Spooky College (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — Ph: 2423554
  Kantara (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — Mob: 99008-20093
  Vedha (K) - 4 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — Ph: 2452958
  Vedha (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — Ph: 2521923
  Vedha (K) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — Ph: 2422871
  Vedha (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — Ph: 2420885
  Thugs of Ramaghada (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — Ph: 2443568
  Mr. Bachelor (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — Mob: 98454-14691
  Love Story (K) - 2 Shows; *Cocktail (K)* - 2 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — Ph: 2497199
  Ladki (H) - 4 Shows
- **Uma Theatre** — Ph: 2520009
  Day and Someone (Te) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Spooky College (K)	(S-1)	10.25 am
	(S-2)	7.15 pm
Vedha (K)	(S-1)	1.00 pm, 6.55 pm, 9.55 pm
Kantara (K)	(S-1)	4.00 pm
Shri Balaji Photo Studio (K)	(S-2)	10.50 am
Miss Nandini (K)	(S-2)	1.45 pm
V3 (Ta)	(S-2)	4.35 pm
Malikappuram (Ma)	(S-2)	9.55 pm
Mr. Bachelor (K)	(S-3)	10.50 am, 7 pm, 9.50 pm
Thug of Ramaghada (K)	(S-3)	1.45 pm
Cocktail (K)	(S-3)	4.15 pm
Avatar: The Way of Water (E-3D)	(S-4)	10.50 am, 2.30 pm 6.10 pm, 9.45 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Vedha (K)	:	10.45 am, 1.20 pm 4.40 pm, 7.45 pm
Mareyade Kshamisu (K)	:	11.00 am
Avatar: The Way of Water (K-3D)	:	1.00 pm, 4.40 pm 8.15 pm
Shri Balaji Photo Studio (K)	:	1.00 pm
Miss Nandini (K)	:	4.00 pm
Spooky College (K)	:	4.20 pm, 9:00 pm
Vaishampayana Theera (K)	:	6.30 pm
Cocktail (K)	:	7.00 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Avatar: The Way of Water (E-3D)	:	9.45 am, 1.40 pm 5.35 pm, 9.30 pm
Dhamaka (Te)	:	12.10 pm, 9.15 pm
Mr. Bachelor (K)	:	12.15 pm, 3.20 pm 6.25 pm, 9.15 pm
Vedha (K)	:	12.15 pm, 3.15 pm 6.30 pm, 9.50 pm
Malikappuram (Ma)	:	12.45 pm
Spooky College (K)	:	12.50 pm, 3.35 pm 6.15 pm, 9.30 pm
Theru (Ma)	:	3.30 pm
Once Upon A Time In Jamaligudda (K)	:	3.45 pm
Cocktail (K)	:	6.25 pm
Kantara (K)	:	6.35 pm
Drishyam 2 (H)	:	9.45 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Avatar: The Way of Water (E-3D)	:	10.15 am, 2.10 pm, 6.05 pm, 10 pm
Vedha (K)	:	11.30 am, 2.50 pm, 6.10, 9.30 pm
Spooky College (K)	:	12.15 pm, 7.20 pm
Mr. Bachelor (K)	:	1.10 pm, 4.15 pm, 10.15 pm
Shri Balaji Photo Studio (K)	:	3.10 pm
Thugs of Ramaghada (K)	:	6.20 pm
Theru (Ma)	:	9.00 pm

INOX LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob. : 7829999465

Avatar: The Way of Water (E-3D)	(S-1)	9.45 am, 1.40 pm 5.35 pm, 9.30 pm
	(S-4)	2.50 pm, 6.40 pm
Bhediya (H-3D)	(S-4)	11.40 am
Vedha (K)	(S-2)	10 am, 4.00 pm, 7.10 pm
	(S-3)	12.50 pm
Malikappuram (Ma)	(S-2)	10.20 pm
Mr. Bachelor (K)	(S-3)	9.55 am, 6.50 pm
Spooky College (K)	(S-3)	4.00 pm, 9.50 pm
Mareyade Kshamisu Nenapadare (K)	(S-2)	1.10 pm
Vindhya Victim Verdict V3 (Ta)	(S-4)	10.30 pm

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Avatar: The Way of Water (3D-E) (With English Atmos)	(S-2)	10.40 am, 2.30 pm 6.20 pm, 10.10 pm
Avatar: The Way of Water (E-3D)	(S-3)	9.10 pm
Mr. Bachelor (K)	(S-1)	10.30 am, 4.35 pm, 10.20 pm
Spooky College (K)	(S-3)	10.00 am
	(S-4)	1.55 pm, 7.10 pm
Vedha (K)	(S-1)	1.25 pm; (S-4) 10.00 pm
Cocktail (K)	(S-1)	7.35 pm
Thugs of Ramaghada (K)	(S-3)	12.50 pm
Miss Nandini (K)	(S-3)	3.25 pm
Bhediya (H-3D)	(S-3)	6.00 pm
Vaishampayana Theera (K)	(S-4)	11.30 am
Love Story 1998 (K)	(S-4)	4.45 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15.

Focusing on skills gives a competitive edge

MD of Karnataka Skill Development Corporation speaks to students on the criticality of skill development

Mysuru, Jan. 7 (RK&BCT)- Upskilling is crucial to increase employability and to stay ahead of the competition. "Students must develop soft skills as it is the need of the hour and adapt themselves to the changing demands of the job market," said Ashwin D. Gowda, MD, Karnataka Skill Development Corporation (KSDC).

He was speaking after inaugurating a two-day seminar on Skill India: Challenges and Opportunities, organised by the B.N. Bahadur Institute of Management Sciences at Rani Bhadur auditorium, in city yesterday.

He felt that students should strive for excellence, which is considered a fundamental duty. Students should not only demand their rights but also be aware of their duties and limitations in the job market. "You must strive to accord importance to upskilling to improve competitiveness and employability factor. Communication and time management should become the core factor of their learning," he said.

"Karnataka has always been blessed with exceptional talent. We can now provide them with more straightforward access to opportunities and streamline conversations between them and the industry, helping bridge the demand gap and providing individuals with tools that will shape not just their lives but society and the nation as well," he added. He said there was no shortage of jobs and it was evident in the numerous job fairs conducted by KSDC. But many companies are facing an acute shortage of skilled manpower.

National vision for employment

The KSDC's objective is to aid youths in line with the national vision for employment. "We envision 10 million opportunities across jobs, internships, and paid openings in the coming years. We also hope to see around one lakh candidates undergoing skill assessments while reaching out to 20 million job seekers, he said.

"Many companies are rethinking their working models, cultures and values. A big part of this evaluation is a renewed focus on upskilling and reskilling as they work to retain talent, as well as a shift to skills-based recruiting. Organisations have made a material shift in the way they hire. Rather than primarily focusing on diplomas and past experiences, they are becoming laser-focused on skills," Ashwin Gowda noted.

Huge job potential

The KSDC has identified nearly 30 sectors covering a wide range of fields where there is a huge job potential. "We are training about 3 lakh students every year and offering various skill development courses besides signing memorandums of understanding with various countries to provide skilled manpower for specific areas stipulated by them," he revealed.

"Over 47 percent of the students graduating from thousands of educational institutions every year are not employable as they lack skill sets. The National Education Policy emphasises upskilling with a multi-disciplinary approach. I feel that skills-building programmes must be integrated with talent acquisition so people can own their learning journeys," he added.

Chairman of B.N. Bahadur Institute of Management Sciences Prof. D. Anand presided over the event. Registrar of University of Mysore V.R. Shailaja, Vice-Chairman of CII Mysuru Zone Sam Cherian Kumbukattu, Seminar Convenor Dr. M. Amulya, Organising Committee Members Prof. Aisha M. Sheriff, Prof. S.J. Manjunath and Prof. R. Mahesh were present.

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